各位发动

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1906.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Year 6 00 SUNDAY, Per Year ... DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year 8 60 DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month..... Postage to foreign countries added.

Published by The Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for n wish to have rejected articles returned, they nust in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Trade Unionism at San Francisco.

Scores of millions of dollars will be spent in the rebuilding of San Francisco. A part of this will be paid for structural material which must come from other points in the country and even from abroad. A very important part of the total expenditure will go to the thousands of artisans, mechanics and laborers employed in the processes of construction For several years trade unionism has practically controlled industrial enterprises in San Francisco. Perhaps nowhere else in the country has organized labor been so dominant. This fact has an important bearing on the situation during the reconstruction period.

The unionism of San Francisco has been virtually a monopoly. It enforced the rule of the "closed shop" in all branches of industry. It forced wages to their maximum. It drove out the "scab" and crushed labor competition in industrial operations. During the years now to come much will depend upon the use made of their power by the labor unions of San Francisco. Will they be content with the exorbitant wage rates of the recent past, or will they, by strikes and other processes, take advantage of necessity and attempt the compulsion of extortionate rates? How far will the local unions strive to exclude non-union labor which may seek employment during the activities of the coming days?

Mayor SCHMITZ is himself a labor leader. He was elected by the unions. During the fearful stress of the last ten days his official conduct has been generally correct. A larger opportunity now lies before him. He can throw his influence over the days to come. Nothing else means so much to those who must replace their ruined structures as a knowledge of the cost of labor and an assurance that activity will not be interrupted or suspended by strikes and by demands for increased wages. Organized labor never had and perhaps never will have a better chance to display the merits which its leaders claim for it than that which is presented in the reconstruction of San Francisco.

The unions should publicly pledge the good faith of their organizations that during the next three years there shall be no demand in any branch of the building industry for a wage rate greater than that paid before the disaster. On the other hand, contractors may well pledge themselves to a plan of no wage reduction except by mutual agreement. This is one of labor's great opportunities. Unionism may show itself in the light of an enemy to itself and to society by an attempt to wrest from the situation every possible dollar, regardless of consequences, or it can show itself a businesslike organization by assuring the public of fixed prices and stable conditions during the rebuilding of San Francisco.

For the Palisades.

The Assembly has passed the bill desired by the men who are working vigorously and loyally for the preservation of the Palisades. That excellent measure has been reported by the Senate committee, and the Senate will soon vote

The reason for this legislation is procisely the same as the reason for legislation to protect Niagara Falls from the despoiler. Niagara Falls are at one end of the State and the New York part of the Hudson Palisades is at the other, but the two wonderful gifts of nature are our common possession and must be protected.

Let the Senate do its duty, too. Pass the bill and send it to the Governor.

Is a Crisis at Hand in France?

Although there is now less disorder in the mining region of northeastern France, owing to the repressive measures which the Government at last decided to take, there is still a great deal of anxiety concerning the outcome of the demonstrations which the Confederation of Labor has arranged to make on Tuesday, May 1, not only in Paris, but in all other urban centres. Some 80,000 men have already ceased to work in the Department of the Seine, and at least a quarter of them are classed as probable disturbers of the public peace. The apprehension felt by the authorities is indicated by the fact that, in addition to the police, some 35,000 soldiers have been assembled in the capital, and large reenforcements are stationed close at hand, while immense supplies of food have been collected for the purpose of averting the scarcity of provisions that might be caused by the threatened universal strike.

Nevertheless, we find ourselves unable to believe that Paris is in danger of witnessing a coup d'état like that which took place on December 2, 1851. The political situation is materially different. Fiftyfive years ago organized labor all over France, and especially in the capital, had become inimical to the Second Republic. The insurrection of the Red Republicans in June, 1848, had been put down with appalling slaughter. The Government workshops established by LEDRU ROLLIN and LOUIS BLANC had been abandoned. In the place of universal suffrage had been imposed a property qualification for the franchise. As between the aristocrats who dom-

nated the legislative assembly and LOUIS BONAPARTE, who wore the aureole of the Napoleonic legend, the workingmen preferred the latter. Accordingly, as Victor Hugo has testified in his "Histoire d'un Crime," the Faubourg St. Antoine and other headquarters of labor remained impassive and listless while the usurper and his, accomplices were effecting the overthrow of the constitutional régime.

Now, on the other hand, although French miners have, or think they have, a grievance, there is no deep dissatisfaction with the Third Republic on the part of the proletariat in Paris or in any of the manufacturing districts of France. More than once have representative Socialists been invited to become Cabinet Ministers, and their principal leader, Professor Jaurès, is recognized as perhaps—next to M. CLEMENCEAU—the most influential member of either house of the national legislature. Thanks to their voting strength in the Chamber of Deputies, they have succeeded in placing not a few of the innovations demanded by them upon the statute book. They are, above all, keenly alive to the fact that they have much more to expect from a Government controlled by Radical Republicans than they could hope for from a reactionary régime. They know well that even a successful temporary revolt on their part would in the end be put down by the standing army, which, flushed with victory, would be almost certain, on the pretext that a strong administration was needed. to establish a Bourbon monarchy or a

Bonapartist empire. Such shrewd men as Professor JAURES and M. MILLERAND have no intention of burning their fingers by pulling chestnuts out of the fire for the benefit of reactionists.

The Supreme Court on Divorce.

An interesting decision has just been rendered by the Supreme Court of the United States which gravely affects in its scope and operation the status of all divorced persons in the United States who have obtained decrees of divorce without first obtaining personal service within the proper jurisdiction, or without the voluntary appearance of the defendant. This decision will be of immediate practical importance for the guidance of the scores of individuals who are contemplating the early dissolution of the marriage bond in some favored State where there is what Mr. Justice WHITE terms "the line of least resistance."

This decision has been rendered by a majority of one in a court of nine Judges, but it is just as binding as though the nine Judges had agreed.

Some lawyers have already hazarded he opinion that this new decision does not conflict with a former decision, and that it makes no change in what has been regarded heretofore as the most recent law. This view is hasty and erroneous, and we shall indicate the bearing and scope of the Haddock case.

It may be said in passing that an examination of the various opinions rendered shows that the majority of the court imagine that they have not reversed themselves, while the four dissenting Justices are plainly of the opinion that the court has receded from the

former decision. The gravity of the situation is best sions in the dissenting opinions.

Mr. Justice HOLMES of Massachusetts, who writes one of the dissenting opinions, evidently thinks that the clock of time has gone back a century. His alarm is expressed in these words:

" I do not suppose that civilization will come to an end whichever way this case is decided. But as the reasoning which prevails in the mind of the majority does not convince me, and as I think that the decision not only reverses a previous well considered decision of this court, but is likely to cause considerable disaster to innocent persons and to bastardize children hitherto supposed to be the offspring of lawful marriage, I think it proper to

The learned Justice then proceeds, with that delicious abandon which occasionally is found in minority opinions of the Supreme Court of the United States, to demolish the theories of the prevailing opinion, and concludes with he assertion that it is "enough to read ATHERTON vs. ATHERTON to see that its whole drift and tendency now are reversed, and its necessary consequences

The other minority judges were Mr. Justice HARLAN, Mr. Justice BREWER and Mr. Justice BROWN, who writes the other dissenting opinion. He thus ex-

presses his disappointment: "I regret that the court in this case has taken what seems to me a step backward in American jurisprudence, and has virtually returned to the old doctrine of comity, which it was the very object of the full faith and credit clause of the Constitu don to supersede."

The majority opinion is written by Mr. Justice WHITE of Louisiana, and the concurring judges are Chief Justice FULLER of Ohio, Mr. Justice PECKHAM of New York, Mr. Justice McKenna of California and Mr. Justice DAY of Ohio.

The opinion is exhaustive, embracing an examination of all the important decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States and of the courts of last resort in the various States, and it illustrates that marked ability which char-

acterizes Mr. Justice WHITE. The question before the court, stated in the simplest terms, was this: "Is a divorce obtained in one State, without personal service within the State upon the defendant, or the voluntary appearance in the action of such defendant, a good divorce beyond the limits of the State where the divorce has been granted,

or has it no extra-territorial force?" The Supreme Court of the United States has now sustained the judgment of the New York Court of Appeals in the case of HADDOCK vs. HADDOCK, decided by the Court of Appeals on March 15, 1904, when the judgment of the Appellate Division of this department was affirmed, with no opinion. If we turn to the Appellate Division Reports we find that the judgment of the lower court

was affirmed, with no opinion. On June 4, 1868, JOHN W. HADDOCK and HARRIET HADDOCK were married; they separated the same day without the marriage being consummated, and

have never lived together since. Soon after the wedding the husband left New York and finally settled in Connecticut in 1877, where in 1881 he obtained a divorce in the Superior Court of Litchfield county, remarrying in the following year. In June, 1899, thirty-one years after the original marriage, the wife, HARRIET HADDOCK, commenced an action for a separation in the Supreme Court of this county, and obtained personal service upon the husband. The husband set up in his answer the Connecticut divorce of 1881, but on the trial before a referee the judgment roll in the Connecticut case was excluded, and the referee found that the wife was entitled to a separation and to alimony of \$780 a year. The referee's report was sustained, and a judgment for separation and alimony was entered in favor of the wife. As Mr. Justice White says: "The Federal question is, Did the court below, violate the Constitution of the United States by refusing to give to the decree of divorce rendered in the State of Connecticut the faith and credit to which it was entitled?" it being claimed by the husband that under the first section of Article IV. of the Federal Constitution, providing that "full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other State," a judgment of divorce obtained in one State should be recognized in every other State.

In this Haddock case, at the time of the original marriage, both parties resided in New York, and the wife coninued to live in this State. When the husband obtained his Connecticut divorce he served notice upon the wife by publication only, and she did not appear in the action. There was, therefore, no actual personal service upon the wife, but only constructive service, which was made good by the statutes of

Mr. Justice WHITE concedes that all governments must possess inherent power over the married relation, as regards their own citizens, and that where a court of one State, conformably acted concerning the dissolution of the marriage tie, as to a citizen of that State, such action is binding in that State as to such citizen. But he points out that the final question in this case is "whether to enforce in another jurisdiction the Connecticut decree would not be to enforce in one State a personal judgment rendered in another State against defendant over whom the court of the State rendering the judgment has not acquired jurisdiction." He alludes to the contention that if the power of one State to decree the dissolution of a marriage which would be compulsory upon the other States be limited to cases where both parties are subject to the jurisdiction, the right to obtain a divorce could be so hampered and restricted as to be in effect impossible of exercise. And in answer he says that the preponderance of inconvenience would be against the contention that a State should have the power to exert its authority concerning the dissolution of marriage as to those not amenable to its jurisdiction. By the application of such a rule, he thinks, each State would acquire the power of overshadowing the authority of all the other States, thus causing the parriage tie to be less protected than any other civil obligation, and this to be accomplished by destroying individual rights without a hearing and by tri-

bunals having no jurisdiction. To relieve the anxiety of all persons who have obtained doubtful divorces in other States, we can assure them that if the defendant is personally served within the State granting the decree, or if the defendant by prearrangement appears through an attorney, the divorce will stand good. The bearing of this decision is only upon cases where there has been no voluntary appearance or no personal service within the jurisdic-

Now, the law in this State has long been settled. In the case of People vs. BAKER the Court of Appeals decided that the court of another State could not dissolve the marital relations of a citizen of this State without a voluntary appearance on his part or without personal service of process on him in that State. This rule has been adhered to steadfastly by the Court of Appeals. As recently as 1901, in the case of Winston vs. WINSTON, Judge GRAY, in rendering the opinion of the court, said:

"That a judgment, rendered upon constructive service of process, is without force against the personal status of a non-resident and non-appearing defendant has been frequently the subject of judicial discussion; and that the divorce decree in question was without jurisdiction as to this plaintiff, always a resident of this State, cannot be questioned under the authorities."

As Mr. Justice WHITE points out, the courts of New York have invariably refused to treat a divorce rendered in another State as entitled to be enforced in New York by virtue of the "full faith and credit" clause of the Constitution of the United States; and have refused generally to give effect to such decrees even by State comity.

Divergent views as to the validity of these foreign divorces in States other than the forum of the action obtain in our various States. The strict rule of New York has been followed to its full extent in Pennsylvania, in North Carolina and in South Carolina, where constructive service confers no jurisdiction. In the other States there are varying degrees of lenity, although Mr. Justice WHITE classes Massachusetts and New Jersey in the same group as New York. In many States some effect to decrees of divorce rendered where the court had jurisdiction of the plaintiff alone is given upon the principle of State comity. while in Missouri, Rhode Island and California and elsewhere ex parte decrees of divorce rendered in other States receive recognition by reason of the "full faith and credit" clause of the Federal

Constitution. Mr. Justice WHITE, in referring to the celebrated Atherton case, which was decided by the Supreme Court of the United States in April, 1901, differentiates and distinguishes that case from the Haddock case. The ATHERTONS were married at Clinton in New York, the wife is as Greek as dried currante, as na-

being a resident of Clinton and the defend- tional as baseball is American. The toss ant a resident of Louisville, Kentucky. Immediately after their marriage they went to Louisville, and lived there until | half pound weight to the record dis-October, 1891; then, owing to her husband's cruel and abusive treatment, the wife left him and went back to her mother at Clinton, and remained thereafter a resident and domiciled in the State of New York. When she left Kentucky she did so with the purpose and intention of not returning, but of permanently residing in the State of New York. In 1893 the wife, MARY ATHERTON, sued the husband for a separation or a divorce from bed and board on the ground of cruelty. In the husband's answer he set up an absolute divorce, which he had obtained in March, 1893, in the State ing, hurling the javelin and wrestling, of Kentucky. The wife was not personally served with process within the State of Kentucky, nor did she appear in the action. Mr. Justice GRAY, in rendering the opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States, after quoting many authorities showing the wide diversity of opinion existing upon this important subject, which he said admonished to confine the decision to the exact case

before the Court, said: "This case does not involve the validity of divorce granted, on constructive service, by the court of a State in which only one of the parties ever had a domicile; nor the question to what extent the good faith of the domicile may be afterward inquired into. In this case the divorce in Kentucky was by the court of the State which had always been the undoubted demicile of the husband, and which was the only matrimonial domicile of the husband and wife. The single question to be decided is the validity of that divorce, granted after such notice had been given as was required

There Chief Justice FULLER and Mr. Justice PECKHAM dissented. That decision, Mr. Justice WHITE says, was based on the principle of matrimonial domicile, and the divorce was recognized because the undoubted domicile of both husband and wife had been in the State of Kentucky, the theory of individual and separate domicile being irrelevant to the question involved in that case. But Justice Holmes says to the laws of such State or the State | there is no difference between the Atherthrough its legislative department, has ton case and the present case except that in the Atherton case the forum of the first decree was that of the matrimonial domicile, whereas in this new case the court was that of a domicile afterward acquired.

An examination of the Atherton case and of the cases therein cited by Judge GRAY with apparent approval, especially the Ditson case in Rhode Island and certain Massachusetts cases; clearly indicates that the tendency of the Atherton case was opposite to the new de-

cision. It is, indeed, difficult to differentiate exactly between various decisions of a great court and to determine their full and exact meaning, when the very Judges of that court put different constructions upon their previous decisions. But, however that may be, and no matter what was intended to be decided in the Atherton case, we now welcome this new decision because we think it is sound and just and good law. As Mr. Justice

WHITE remarks: "Under the rule contended for, it would follow that the States whose laws were the most lax as to length of residence required for domicile, as to causes for divorce and to speed of procedure concerning divorce, would in effect dominate all the other States. In other words, any person who was married in one State and who wished to violate the marital obligations would be able, by following the lines of least resistance, to go into the State whose laws were the most lax, and there avail of them for the purpose of the severance of the marriage tie and the destruction of the rights of the other party to the marriage contract, to the over-

These graphic words picture the exact situation of to-day. Wives and husbands, tiring of their partners, and wishing to violate the matrimonial obligations which they voluntarily assumed, greedily search for the most favorable forum, follow the lines of least resistance, and obtain in Rhode Island or South Dakota or some other State a divorce; and this evil cannot be stopped. Whenever the defendant will come to be served within the foreign State or will appear by some attorney, the decree will be good in all the other States of the Federal Union; but where there is no personal appearance and no actual service of process within the State, then the divorce will be good only within the limits of the State where it is granted. and in such States of the Federal Union as favor the lax view according credit to such decrees of divorce.

The decree will not be good in the State of New York, nor will it be recognized as good by the Supreme Court of the United States, and it will probably not be held to be good when questioned in any court of any foreign country.

It is well that the growing evil has been checked. It cannot be eradicated for there will always be cases of fictitious domicile or domicile established merely and solely for the purpose of getting a divorce without the slightest intention on the plaintiff's part of remaining within the new State. The pliant defendant, by voluntary appearance in such cases, will facilitate the granting of a binding decree, and such cases will be in the majority.

The redeeming feature of the whole situation is that by this decision our great Federal court has put a stop to the unlimited spread of fictitious divorces, and to the validity of judgments based only on assumed or constructive service. For this the people should be profoundly grateful to our highest tribunal,

America in the Stadium.

Our representatives at Athens have revealed an all around skill that is a new proof of the ability to do things that carries Americans to the fore, whatever the test may be. The news from the Stadium is inspiriting. When the vast multitude were cheering the American flag, the signal to denote that SHERIDAN had won at the discus, the scene must have been impressive.

The victory at the graceful Grecian feat, the throwing of the discus, is a notable achievement by our representatives, for of all the contests to be waged near the Temple of Olympus. this one alone is native to the soil. It

was made under the Greek rules, and while SHERIDAN threw the four and a tance of 135 feet 2 inches, he would probably, had he been free to choose his own method, have exceeded that distance. Throwing the hammer is not on the Olympian card, but SHERIDAN has still to compete in putting the sixteen pound shot and throwing the twentyeight pound stone and the fifty-six pound weight. He is also entered in the Pentathlon, the quintuple test that produces the champion of the champions. In this he must compete, on the percentage basis as to wins, in a 192 metre flat race, the broad jump, discus throw-

all within an hour and a half. DANIELS, the swimmer, and EWRY, the jumper, are still paramount, and while disaster has overtaken NITLOF, our great lightweight wrestler, and GLOVER, the pole vaulter, there are others who are forging the links in a chain of victories long to be remembered.

To the losers, "better luck next time"; to the victors, their stint of the sweetest nectar ever brewed on Mount Olympus.

Gen. GREELY reports that 300,000 people are homeless in San Francisco: 300,000 into 16,000,000 goes 53.33, and \$53.33 wont last a hungry and homeless person a great while. An anonymous contributor to the Boston fund signs his gifts, "Keep giving' and comes in every day. He has the right

A bill has passed the Senate establishing corps of dental surgeons in the army Its stoutest advocate was the oldest man in the Senate, Mr. PETTUS of Alabama, who will soon be eighty-five. The dental surgeons are to have rank as high as Major This means, unless the law is an entering wedge, that we shall have no dentistgenerals and dentist commanders-in-chief The parodists will never be able to say that the pen is mightier than the forceps.

If the Japanese offer their mite to this Government for San Francisco, the Hon. ROBERT BACON will have to sit down with a thesaurus to compose the right kind of feeling declination.

The praying of the Rev. FREDERICK HARFORD, Canon of Westminster Abbey, for the success of HACKENSCHMIDT in his wrestling bout with MADRALI, the great Turk, is not impressive, for the heathen are praying just as fervently for the triumph of Madrali. More to the point is the Canon's information about leg holds and other tricks of the catch-as-catch-can style of wrestling which he has communicated to the "Russian Lion." HACKEN-SCHMIDT was not an adept in that style when he met Tom Jenkins here, and he had to depend upon his strength and agility to prevail over the puddler.

The President has approved an act for the establishment of a life saving station on Neah Bay, in Washington State, and the construction of an oceangoing tug, to be equipped with wireless telegraph machinery, for service in saving life and property in the vicinity of the north Pacific coast. In its report on the loss of the steamship Valencia the President's special commission condemned severely the inadequacy of the aids to navigation in the region to which this act applies. That disaster made evident the need for immediate action, and the law will remedy, in a certain degree, the existing conditions.

Much more needs to be done, however. The Cape Flattery light and fog signal are not in the zone of greatest danger. When fog and mist, as she had been for some time but the atmosphere was clear at the light and the fog signal was silent. A lightship is needed at Forty-Fathom Bank. The President's commission urged the establishment of wireless stations at Cape Flattery, Point Wilson or Point Partridge, at the Puget Sound Navy Yard, and down the Pacific coast at least to Gray's Harbor. The navy is installing wireless plants at Cape Flattery, Point Wilson and Seattle. Immediate provision should be made for

the other plants. The north Pacific coast has been neg. lected by the nation. The lesson of the Valencia should not be half learned.

A Distinct Impression

From the Pawtucket Evening Times, Member

of the Associated Press. We violate no law of newspaper ethics n paying tribute to the splendid work of THE SUN during the past week. All papers have been placed at serious disadvantage by reason of the isolation of San Francisco but THE SUN alone among the metropolitan press seems to have been able to preserve its traditions by securing connectedly written news, immediate, accurate, inspirational Some of the best newspaper literature ever printed has been written in the heart of the national calamity by THE SUN'S correspondents. Against the dark background of frag mentary hysterics thrown up by the screech ing yellow journals it stands out with peculiar distinctness.

A Pink of Perfection.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: L. Pink Smit s the efficient and courteous clerk of the Miss OXFORD, Miss., April 23.

. Without Delay

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Can the firm of Waite & Quick, lumber dealers, Binghamton, N. Y., develop sufficient speed to get into your Gallery of Immortals"? W. H. THOMPSON NEW YORK, April 25.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Will P. P. Guthrie of Nutley, N. J., confer a favor on the engineering fraternity by telling us how to get a "twenty inch discharge from two ten inch openings," and also let us know if this is one of the parts of his system that will work to perfection? SALEM, Mass., April 25.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Is not the man who recognizes an intense thirst in a fellow being and furnishes the dime to satisfy it a tru

South Carolina Candidates From the Charleston News and Courier. The woods are full of candidates in South Car olina, and most of them are able to conceal them selves behind saplings.

Immediate Application

TORRINGTON, Conn., April 25.

Mr. Man-Tell you what, old fellow, this disaste has been a lesson to all doubting souls. Humanity shines out splendidly in these days of greed and graft, and revives our faith in human nature—er sorry, old man, but I can't lend you a quarter.

Enicker-Would you give your seat to a woman who was plain or old? Bocker-Well, I'd give it to any woman wh

The True Foundation. Though sand may quake and earth may sway And rock itself may split, The elements can never budge

SIMPLIFIED SPELLING NOT PHO-NETIC REFORM.

Reply to Mr. Munson by the Editor of the

Century Dictionary. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will yo kindly give me space for a reply to the letter on "phonetics" which you printed this morn Mr. Munson's argument rests upon the perfectly sound proposition that no phonetic reform of English spelling is possible without a reconstruction of the English alphabet. This is well understood by all who have looked into the matter intelligently, but he certainly misses the mark when he uses this fact as the ground of a criticism of the proposals of the Simplified Spelling Board; and his for the simple reason that the board has not proposed and does not intend to propose phonetic reform of our orthography. It is perfectly true that the simplification which he board does propose would, in most cases, bring our spelling nearer to phonetic accuracy in many cases it would not, and in any case the principles by which it is chiefly gov rned are not phonetic but of a distinctly different character. The board certainly has right to demand that in this particular ts position shall be understood in so far as has stated it clearly.

If it is said-and this is perhaps more precisely what Mr. Munson means—that nothing but a phonetic reconstruction is desirable, the reply, in the opinion of the board, is ob vious, namely, that if this is true the whole matter may as well be dropped, for the reason that a phonetic reconstruction is an impossibility, or at least a possibility so renote as to be out of the range of practicality. This is the key to the whole situation. Has This is the key to the whole situation. Has it ever been shown that agreement can be reached with regard to even the initial steps of phonetic reform? Has it ever been shown—by accomplished facts—that if this agreement is reached there is the slightest chance that the public can be induced to accept the overwhelming orthographic revolution which a corrected alphabet—with the Roman vowel values—would necessitate? Mr. Munson may think that these things are possible, but the board does not, and thousands of scholarly and practical men share its opinion on this point.

point.

Furthermore, the board flatly denies that we are forced to the alternative—which Mr. Munson seems to suggest—of phonetic reform or nothing. And it rests this denial upon facts in the history of English orthography so well known that it is unnecessary to specify them. Change in spelling, sometimes for the better, sometimes for the worse, has constantly been going on, and it will conhas constantly been going on, and it will con-

raphy so well known that it is unnecessary to specify them. Change in spelling, sometimes for the worse, has constantly been going on, and it will continue to go on even if the board does not lift a finger to hasten it, and if Mr. Munson and those who think with him oppose it with all their might. It is historically actual; it is perfectly natural; it is inevitable. This being so, what is there unreasonable in seeking to guide it in the direction of greater and greater simplicity and regularity and to hasten it along these lines? On the contrary, is not this the most reasonable thing in the world? This is all that the board proposes. But, says Mr. Munson, this bit by bit method of change will increase the existing confusion prodigiously. Why? Even in the past, when it has been wholly unregulated and has been applied far more extensively than it is now proposed to apply it in the future, it has not produced any serious trouble of this kind. If each step—as it may well be, under proper guidance—is in the direction of greater simplicity and regularity, how can confusion result? By the multiplication of spellings? But thousands of cases of this sort exist now, and the first step taken by the board was to recommend the reduction of the existing confusion by abolishing more than three hundred of these useless variants. In short, is the proposition that our existing spelling, which is admitted to be a monstrosity, is incapable of being bettered by the normal methods of linguistic change one upon which it is possible for any one to stand?

One other point in Mr. Munson's letter may briefly be noticed. Simplification by the omission of silent letters is not a principle which the board has proposed to apply without discrimination. It obviously cannot be so applied, especially in the cases cited by Mr. Munson, where the silent letter indicates

which the obard has proposed to apply without discrimination. It obviously cannot be so applied, especially in the cases cited by Mr. Munson, where the silent letter indicates the quantity or quality of a preceding yowel. It is the useless silent letters that can go, but not necessarily all of these.

Finally, no one believes that all the anomalies of English spelling can be eliminated in a year or a decade. Probably a residuum of irregularity will persist as long as the language is written. The board is not ignorant of the difficulties of the problem. It is for this reason that it intends to make haste slowly. At any rate, it should be criticised or supported for the recommendations it makes, and not for those which some one imagines that it has made or intends to make.

BENJAMIN E. SMITH.

THE MAN IN KHAKI His Opinion on Democratic and Republican Congressional Acts.

THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: square shouldered, upstanding man in thaki" and the blackguarding of the same by the Hon. John Sharp Williams, it is possi ole that the views of one of the aforesaid "square shouldered," &c., on the subject

Personally I do not agree that Mr. Willlams's remarks will bear the construction you so industriously strive to give them, but ceding that such is the case, why should the Republicans object?

We cannot forget that since the civil war we cannot lorget that since the civil war every measure of permanent and general benefit to the man in the ranks has been passed by a Democratic Congress; those against our welfare by the Republicans. It is sufficient to cite one instance, the act of May 25, 1900, engineered by Secretary Root, whereby the travel allowances were cut, in some instances as much as 35 per cent. This at a time when one war had been successfully completed, and another, amid the dangers of a tropical climate and against a savage foe, was in progress. The bill itself made a serious reduction, about one-half, but the final touches were added by a decision of the Comptroller of the Treasury, also a Republican. If your interest in the "man behind the gun" is sincere, why not devote a little space to the deeds of the Republicans as well as the words of the Democrats? Harsh words are unjust but not harmful. Acts of repression and curtailment are both.

This is not written in advocacy of either political party, but most of us are tired of being used as a club, as in the beef inquiry, or as a shield, as in the more recent matter in the Philippines.

New York, April 26. every measure of permanent and general

Justice for Commissioner Woodbury. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The

Aldermanic committee appointed to investigate the affairs of the Street Cleaning Department will resume its meetings on Monday. Thus far there does not appear to have been revealed a scrap of evidence damaging to the management of the department, notvithstanding the very obvious prejudic against its head, Commissioner Woodbury, displayed by Mr. Ivins, counsel for the con mittee, and a majority of the committee. With the exception of Alderman Downing the committee seem to have started out in inquisitorial task strongly prejudiced against the Commissioner and the workings of his administration, determined to find gross fault if not flagrant dishonesty con nected therewith

Witness the ruling out of Lawyer Rand from saying a word directly in behalf of Major Woodbury. If he speaks at all it must be through Mr. Ivins or one of the committee All questions or explanations that he may desire to make must be made by proxy, and he is shut off with a snap at that. As Mr. Rand has said, Major Woodbury, who is the department, is actually on trial, and yet the courtesies and legal services of counsel are absolutely denied to him, except in the unsatsfactory manner described. The committee's employees engaged in examining the books, papers, vouchers, &c., of the department are afforded, I am assured, every fa. cility for information. Anything they want for development they have free access to, and all the help that the employees at the offices of the department can render them

is readily given.

It is to be hoped that in the renewed pro cution of the investigation or trial there will be more fairness and impartiality exhibited by Mr. Ivins and the committee and a less eager manifestation of judgment of wrong and guilt before the whole truth of the situation is fully established. The citizens want to know the actual facts, the real conditions and circumstances that have governed Major Woodbury's four years active, intelligent and efficient administration

If there is any reasonable fault to be found with it, he has no objection, I am safe in saying, that it should be publicly known, and he will be quick to remedy it, if possible. Let the investigation be made with honest freedom and impartiality, without malice or prejudice. Let it not be characterized by mere muck raking. NEW YORK, April 2s.

ORVILLE H. PLATT.

Mr. Ledge's Fine Tribute to the Connecticut Senator. From the Congressional Record.

To be anonymous in his work was much more characteristic of Mr. Platt than to affix his signature where all men might read it, seemed to me not only to care less for self-advertising but to be more averse to it than almost any public man I ever knew. longed for results, and was finely indiffer when it came to the partition of the credit for obtaining them. This is a phase of mind a kind of personal pride and self-respec not unworthy of consideration, for it is sum ciently rare in these days of ours, so flooded with news and so overwhelmed by eas printing. I do not think Mr. Platt ever rea soned the matter out and then rested, satisfied that lasting fame and a place in the history of the time had no relation whatever to the noisy notoriety of the passing hour, with its deafening clamors ever ringing in our ears. It was simply part of his own nature, because ostentation in all its forms was distasteful to him and because he shrank from exhibiting himself, his emotions or his works as sedu lously as some men strive to avoid anything which resembles retirement or privacy. industry was unflagging, and again, in small things as in great, in defeating a doubtful claim as in building up a great law, he sought claim as in building up a great law, results and nothing else. If he could measure he desired he was more to dispense with making a speed could defeat an obnoxious bill by tion, or throw out a bad amendment of order, he was quite content debate; but if debate was necessar as formidable as a lucid, trained, le coupled with full information and of vigorous, clear statement, could uf vigorous, clear statement, could us coupled with full information an of vigorous, clear statement, could He was thorough in all he und effective in the endless complica great tariff as in guarding against which beset our Indian legislatio this chamber his services to the Ir to the good name and credit of States in its dealings with those dhelpless savages, performed duryears of unremitting toil as a men Committee on Indian Affairs, will rightly valued or understood. I kind of hard, self-sacrificing wo sake of the right and to help off must be in itself and in the doing own great and sufficient reward. I have tried to indicate very it those qualities which seem to me to distinguish Senator Platt as a for a statesman of high rank he

to distinguish Senator Platt as a si for a statesman of high rank he tainly was. But I am well aware the dwelt almost exclusively upon his ness, his indifference to self-adver and his unremitting pursuit of rehave passed by many of the qualit went to make up the man and to achis large success. His great ab power of work, his knowledge, his justice, his fearlessness in the bawrong, his capacity for working wmen, were all conspicuous in Mr. I all necessary to the distinguished ments of his life. He possessed all ments of his life. He possessed also much rarer gift in his complete rete that flexibility which is so apt to din men advance in life. The mind, that nexibility which is so apt to diminish men advance in life. The mind, like the muscles, tends to stiffen as we grow oider and only too frequently no effort is made to avoid the consequent rigidity. Both min and muscle will go on performing most admirably the particular functions to which they have been accustomed, but they both alike recoil from a new idea or an unwonted exertion. From all this Mr. Platt was extraordinarily free. Neither his age nor his natural conservation, bindered the

ange rector from all this Mr. Platt was extraordinarily free. Neither his age nor his natural conservatism hindered the movements of his mind or made him shrink from a new idea or tremble and draw back from an unexpected situation.

In the last ten years of his life he saw sudden and vast changes in the relations of the United States to the rest of the world and in our national responsibilities. He did not shrink from them or shut his eyes and try to repel them. He met the new conditions not only with the flexibility, but with the keel interest of youth, while at the same time he brought to the solution of the new problems all the wisdom of a long experience. He did not turn away with dark foreboding from the startling changes which the rush of hurrying events swept suddenly upon us but confronted them with a cheerful heart, a smile upon his lips, and a firm faith in the future of his people and of his country.

We knew him not? Ah well we knew The manly soul, so brave, so true.

The cheerful heart that conquered age.

The cilidlike, silver bearded sage.

A very fine public career ended when Senser Plett died.

A very fine public career ended when Sentor Platt died. In him we lost a statesman of a type which the country can ill spare, a thorough American type, which we may well pray to have sustained and renewed amour us. It is not a type which certain ephemeni defarmers, just now very vocal, admire; but it is to statesmen of his precise kind and stature that we owe in largest measure the foundation and organization of our Government and the ordered liberty and individual freedom which have made the United State what it is to-day. Senator Platt was a man who was at once an honor to the country which he served and guided and a vindication of our faith in a Government of the people of our faith in a Government of who chose him as representative

I have spoken of Senator Platt only as public man. But to us here his death is mus more than a public loss. He was our friend Those who come after us will know of houblic services, of the work he did of the large place he filled in the history of the time but we also remember, and shall never for large place he filled in the history of the time, but we also remember, and shall never forget, the honesty of heart and mind, the simplicity and purity of life, the humor, the low of books and sound learning, and, above all the kindness which never failed and the lorality which never failered. Others may, with full faith in the destiny of the republic we can confidently say others will, come to take up and carry on the public work to which his life was given, but the place which the tried and trusted friend has left empty in our affections cannot again be filled.

ORIENTAL AID NOT NEEDED. Comment on a Queer Proposal of Jap anese Sanitation of San Francisco.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The exer for replying to "Sanitas" regarding the detail of competent Japanese officer to take charge of the concentration camps in San Francisco is t ound in Proverbs xxvi. 4: "Answer a fool accord ing to his folly, lest he be wise in his own co In the letter of "Sanitas" we have the culmi of that public adulation which has caused the Jap nese themselves to stand in open mouthed wonder Isn't it time the public opened its eyes and di inguished between those things which er in the minds of enthusiasts and plain facts!

Japanese will not suffer from the truth being knot

The reasons for their marvellous success con Americans to appreciate—military pro-Since when have American hospitals been m on Japanese institutions or American physicia

vellous hospital record of the Japanese at ing only beri-beri, a preventable disease) was due to superior methods of sanitation, but to perior discipline. When the Japanese enters the army he is no stranger to obediene Obedience to authority begins under the parent roof, and he is there taught that by respect for la he can best serve the interests of the Mikado.

Gen. Funston will have the assistance of the sa class of highly efficient army surgeons who brough the Regular army through the mobilization perfe and placed it in Cuba as free from disease as a Japanese army that ever took the field. Whe "Sanitas" says, "How we falled in this line during the Spanish war is well known," he could not b been thinking of the Fifth Army Corps It will not be surprising if in the dumbness their despair the homeless people of San France

forget for the time the usual American at toward all persons in authority and yield will obedience to the officers of the sanitary department. ment. Such obedience is the aim of discipling

As for Gen. Funston himself, the remarks of G Barry, now assistant to the Chief of Staff, are called, on the occasion of a banquet tendered G Funston in Manila (after his appointmentable). Gen. Barry said: "Every ma Regular army whose word is worth any

Cheer up, "Sanitas." Patriotism, not pe will solve the problems of San Francisco. without Oriental assistance.

The Oldest Postmaster

Menomonie correspondence St. Paul 1 George H. Chamberlain of Rock Falls, th claims to be the oldest postmaster in pe year of continuous service at that place life story is that of the little town, with has been identified since it was a group in 1857 he organized the town of Rock Fal that year received his appointment as po-Although he has always been a Republican held his office through Republican and De-

In Scribner's Magazine for May remi-photographs illustrate Mr. E. S. Curtis's on the Indians of the Southwest. Mme. \ ton writes a pleasant account of Normal Mrs. Hapgood one of the Baths of Luc African ratiroads are described by Sit Girouard and Senator Culberson tells about St Houston. Fiction is represented by Mr. Hopkinsol Smith's serial and by four short stories.

administrations alike.